

## LITTLE ETTA BETRAYS HER ERRING MOTHER.

Wrote to Her Father Telling  
Him Where She and  
His Wife Were.

With the Man Who Had Tried to  
Kill Him, and with Whom  
the Woman Fleed.

Child Couldn't Buy a Postage Stamp,  
So Sent an Unstamped  
Envelope.

HIS TWO OTHER CHILDREN THERE.

Riker Found Taylor in His House Two Years  
Ago and Was Shot When He  
Tried to Eject Him—His  
Long Search.

A little girl's love for her father, from whom she had been taken by her erring mother, who fled with the man who shot her husband, has been instrumental in restoring the child and her brother and sister to the parent who had prosecuted a long search for them, and in bringing the woman and the alleged would-be murderer to justice.

John Riker, lived happily with his wife and three children in Montville, N. J., until one night about two years ago. Then, returning from work, he found a stranger in the house. The man was Wallace W. Taylor, a married man of Kingsland, who is near Passaic. Asking the reason for Wallace's presence, Riker was astounded to learn that his wife, a good-looking woman of thirty-three years, was infatuated with the man.

In a frenzy, Riker proceeded to eject Taylor and picked up a pair of ice-tongs with which to assault him. Taylor thereupon pulled a revolver and sent a bullet through Riker's lung. As the wounded man fell, unconscious, his wife ran to her room, gathered some clothing, and, taking her three children, fled with Taylor.

Neighbors who had heard the shot found Riker on the floor of his home. He was taken to a hospital and while he was there his wife returned to the house and removed all the furniture. When Riker left the hospital, he began a long search for his wife and children. He was enabled to trace them through five towns, and then he lost all track of them.

He was surprised yesterday to receive an unstamped letter, which, he found, was from his eldest daughter, Etta. She informed him that the children and their mother were living with Taylor in Patterson, and that she had frequently wanted to write to him, but that her mother had refused to allow her, and had declined to give her any money, fearing she would buy postage stamps and inform her father of the family's whereabouts. So the little one had finally decided to send an unstamped letter.

Riker at once went to Patterson, and, calling on Recorder Senior, told him the story and secured warrants for the arrest of the wife and Taylor. The man was taken to No. 270 Grand street, where Taylor lived, and found the man, who had just returned from his work in this city. He was placed under arrest, as was also Mrs. Riker, and they were locked up.

Mrs. Riker reviled the daughter for betraying her, but the little one ran to her father's arms and said she was satisfied now that she had found him. The children were taken charge of by the authorities, and a decision in the case is expected, when it is likely they will be placed in the care of their father.

**"BOY WANTED!" AT ONCE.**  
One Not in Too Great a Hurry to Lock  
Up the Office Pre-  
ferred.

Four respectable citizens, who were forced through the carelessness of an office boy to prove their identity before they could be released by the police, were about town yesterday being good-naturedly chaffed by their friends. The gentlemen were Nathaniel J. and Edwin A. Hess and Robert McCrum and Max Hill, of the real estate office of H. & M. Hess, of No. 613 Broadway.

When the men were ready to leave for home Friday evening they found themselves locked in. The boy had left after the locking of the building, and they were prisoners. They rang up Police Headquarters on their telephone and told the Central Office what the trouble was. The Mercer Street Station was notified, and Police Deans and Keen were sent to their rescue.

A ladder was secured, and they were released. As the men thanked the policemen and were about to go their way, they were told they must accompany them to the police station, as it would be necessary as a matter of form to prove their identity. There is probably an opening for a good, bright boy at the building.

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## DWIGHT MOODY SPENDS \$10,000 A WEEK.

Vast Sum Is Used in His  
Educational and Re-  
ligious Work.

Money Comes to Him Largely in  
the Way of Bequests from  
Rich Men.

Hundreds of Thousands Received in  
the Shape of Contributions at  
the Daily Meetings.

KEEPS NO RECORD OF EXPENDITURES.

Notified Yesterday That He Had Been Be-  
queathed \$100,000 by a Con-  
necticut Banker Who Died  
Recently.

Rev. Dwight L. Moody, the evangelist, received notice yesterday that \$100,000 had been left him in the will of a wealthy and prominent citizen of New London, Conn., to be devoted to his educational work in Chicago and Northfield, Mass. The money was bequeathed to a board of trustees by J. N. Harris, a New London bank president, who died about three weeks ago. The stipulation of his will is that it shall be spent under the advice and direction of Mr. Moody in his various educational institutions.

This is only one of the many similar funds that have been received by Evangelist Moody for the prosecution of his extensive religious and educational work. He keeps no record of the amount he spends and does not discuss the subject unless piled with questions, but the fact remains that he handles and pays out as much as \$10,000 a week in the cause of education and charity.

His revival meetings at Cooper Union in this city during the past week have attracted immense crowds. Toward the latter part of the week it became necessary to hold overflow services in adjoining churches. This afternoon he will conduct a meeting at Carnegie Hall. It has been arranged by the committee of ministers who have charge of these revival services to have Mr. Moody occupy Cooper Union

for his revival meetings. His wife ran to her room, gathered some clothing, and, taking her three children, fled with Taylor.

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## LEONIDS DISAPPOINT THE STAR GAZERS IN THE INTEREST PROBABLY OF DOCTORS AND DRUGGISTS.

When the first gray streaks of dawn brightened the eastern sky yesterday the star gazers that had been bivouacking on the housetops with telescopes trained on Saturn, Uranus and heavenly con-

stellations generally descended from the roofs and went to bed. Somebody sold the amateur astronomers an empyrean gold brick, and for the next thirty days they will be buying cough medicine and

the occasion for sitting up all night was the regular November visitation of Leonids, scheduled to play ball about 3 o'clock yesterday morning, city time. It had been announced by the gentlemen having in mind the movements of the heavenly bodies that the Leonids would get within the earth's vision before daylight and furnish a beautiful and exhilarating sight. In accordance with the announcement a number of people remained away from their regular haunts all night and watched for the sight. In the afternoon the snow that fell in New York was taken as an indication that the visitors would receive a cool reception, and later on the sky clouded up in a manner that suggested a Munich painter's idea of night, and remained in that condition until the crow of the well-informed rooster told of the coming day.

While the sky was full of darkness, however, those interested in the action of the Leonids started up to see if it would clear up enough for the ornamental display to be given. The certain, however, was not lifted and the Leonids did not appear. They may have been seen in Europe, but the weather in this section of the country was against them. The Leonids are not, strictly speaking, shooting stars, but "meteoric fragments which circulate around the sun in an elongated orbit which extends as far as Uranus." The present crowd of shooting stars, which did not shoot, are only a job lot acting as advance agents for the main body, which is billed to open an engagement in November, 1896. The main body, when it arrives, will resemble an exhibition of Manhattan Beach fireworks combined with a Fourth of July firemen's picnic, after dark. Last night, too, an exhibition of the advance guard was scheduled to take place, and probably did somewhere. An effort was made yesterday to find out if any one had seen the stars that morning, but no one would admit that he had. A theatrical company walking over the Brooklyn Bridge early in the morning was for a short time mistaken by a few East River astronomers for the Uranus-Delta-Llama combination, but the all-star aggregation proved an alibi by a man who had seen their show. Several policemen who were questioned declared that the performance did not take place during their tour of duty and referred people to the roundsmen as positive proof that they were awake when he made his rounds.

A telephoned question to the Columbia University in regard to the stars brought back the answer that, while a great deal was known about what should have taken place according to contract, no witnesses to the act were on hand. Cablegrams to China were referred to Li Hung Chang, and Mark Hanna, when asked if Cleveland had seen them, said he had not taken the President. Just what happened after last midnight is not known at this writing, but the stars probably got in on time early this morning and gave an exhibition in a clear sky like a lot of tumbler pigeons covered with phosphorus, if there wasn't any hitch between the scenes.

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## THE WORLD'S GREATEST EVANGELIST.

DR. THOMAS BURCHARD DEAD.  
Was the Originator of the Operation Re-  
moving the Variform Appendix.

DR. THOMAS BURCHARD, the son of the late Dr. Samuel D. Burchard, of "Three R's" fame, died suddenly of heart failure at his home, No. 33 West Fifty-second street, yesterday afternoon, after an illness of forty-eight hours. He had only lately commenced practice as a physician, having been in Europe and at Saratoga, with the hope of completely restoring his health, which had been poor for some years. Overexertion while in attendance upon a patient caused the final attack of heart failure.

Dr. Burchard was forty-six years old, and was the author of various papers which added important data to medical science. In a paper, written in 1873, on "Operative Interference in Acute Perforative Perityphilitis," he suggested the operation for the removal of the appendix. This operation was speedily adopted and has been frequently employed since that time. Dr. Burchard was twice married. His first wife was Miss Irene Stewart, daughter of William R. Stewart. Three years ago he was married to Miss Olive Wilcox, of Quebec, who survives him. He leaves two children, Stewart and Leeds Burchard, aged respectively seventeen and thirteen years.

**"Pony" Wilson's Wife Is Free.**  
Mrs. Phoebe Wilson, the wife of "Pony" Wilson, who has been confined in the Queen County Jail since August 19, accused of the murder of her husband, whose decomposed body was found in a cesspool in the cellar of the Wilson house at No. 22 Pine street, Flatbush, August 23, was released yesterday by District Attorney Noble. The Grand Jury failed to indict Mrs. Wilson, and the Commissioner appointed to determine the question of her sanity has pronounced the woman sane.

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the occasion for sitting up all night was the regular November visitation of Leonids, scheduled to play ball about 3 o'clock yesterday morning, city time. It had been announced by the gentlemen having in mind the movements of the heavenly bodies that the Leonids would get within the earth's vision before daylight and furnish a beautiful and exhilarating sight. In accordance with the announcement a number of people remained away from their regular haunts all night and watched for the sight. In the afternoon the snow that fell in New York was taken as an indication that the visitors would receive a cool reception, and later on the sky clouded up in a manner that suggested a Munich painter's idea of night, and remained in that condition until the crow of the well-informed rooster told of the coming day.

While the sky was full of darkness, however, those interested in the action of the Leonids started up to see if it would clear up enough for the ornamental display to be given. The certain, however, was not lifted and the Leonids did not appear. They may have been seen in Europe, but the weather in this section of the country was against them. The Leonids are not, strictly speaking, shooting stars, but "meteoric fragments which circulate around the sun in an elongated orbit which extends as far as Uranus." The present crowd of shooting stars, which did not shoot, are only a job lot acting as advance agents for the main body, which is billed to open an engagement in November, 1896. The main body, when it arrives, will resemble an exhibition of Manhattan Beach fireworks combined with a Fourth of July firemen's picnic, after dark. Last night, too, an exhibition of the advance guard was scheduled to take place, and probably did somewhere. An effort was made yesterday to find out if any one had seen the stars that morning, but no one would admit that he had. A theatrical company walking over the Brooklyn Bridge early in the morning was for a short time mistaken by a few East River astronomers for the Uranus-Delta-Llama combination, but the all-star aggregation proved an alibi by a man who had seen their show. Several policemen who were questioned declared that the performance did not take place during their tour of duty and referred people to the roundsmen as positive proof that they were awake when he made his rounds.

A telephoned question to the Columbia University in regard to the stars brought back the answer that, while a great deal was known about what should have taken place according to contract, no witnesses to the act were on hand. Cablegrams to China were referred to Li Hung Chang, and Mark Hanna, when asked if Cleveland had seen them, said he had not taken the President. Just what happened after last midnight is not known at this writing, but the stars probably got in on time early this morning and gave an exhibition in a clear sky like a lot of tumbler pigeons covered with phosphorus, if there wasn't any hitch between the scenes.

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